Statehood for Pondicherry

1665. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Pondicherry Administration has requested the Central Government for granting Statehood to the Union Territory of Pondicherry;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Legislative Assembly of Pondicherry has also passed a resolution in this regard; and

(c) if so, what is Central Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Resolution passed by the Legislative Assembly of Pondicherry has been noted.

Assent to Assam Rural Employment and Plantation Labour Welfare Bill, 1986

1666. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) when the Assam Government sent the Assam Rural Employment and Plantation Labour Welfare Bill, 1986 to the Ministry of Home Affairs for obtaining the assent of the Hon'ble President;

(b) whether assent of the Hon'ble President has since been obtained, if so, on which date; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor and by when it will be obtained?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) The Assam Rural Employment and Plantation Labour Welfare Bill, 1986, was received in the Ministry of Home Affairs on 26th February, 1987.

(b) Not yet, Sir.

(c) The Bill was examined in consultation with the concerned Central Ministries. Certain clarifications were sought from the Government of Assam; these have been received. It is not possible to indicate any definite date by which a decision on the Bill is likely to be taken.

Problems of Small Scale Industry

1667. SHRI D. B CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a Task Force to examine the problems of small scale industry;

(b) if so, what is the composition of the Task Force; and

(c) by when the Task Force is likely to submit its report to Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Detailed guidelines from RBI to the commercial banks already exist for providing adequate and timely credit facilities to small scale industries. RBI also have a Standing Advisory Committee under the Chairmanship of Deputy Governor, RBI to review the flow of institutional credit to small scale industry sector and other related matters.

With a view to looking into the problems raised by small scale entrepreneurs at a meeting of Young Entrepreneurs held at Bombay on Sept. 21, 1988, a Task Force under the Chairmanship of IDBI Chairman was set up. The Task Force is expected to submit its report soon.